

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments above and the following comments.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Voight et al. ("Voight"), U.S. Patent No. 4,898,645.

Claims 1, 5 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Difelice et al. ("Difelice"), *Combust. Sci. and Tech.*, 1996, 116-117 (1), pp. 5-30.

In response to both anticipation rejections, Applicants note that the Examiner indicates in the middle of page 3 of the Office Action that these rejections are maintained the production of undesired aliphatic fluorocarbon products only results from an alternative process route, and, therefore, still is not necessary. In response, Applicants have amended claim 1, step b) to make clear that some undesired aliphatic fluorocarbon must be produced. Accordingly, steps c) and d) are now mandatory.

Neither Voight nor Difelice teaches obtaining an undesired aliphatic fluorocarbon product which is then recycled to the process.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that neither Voight nor Difelice anticipates, and, therefore, that the Examiner should reconsider and withdraw both anticipation rejections. An early notice that both anticipation rejections have been reconsidered and withdrawn is, therefore, earnestly solicited.

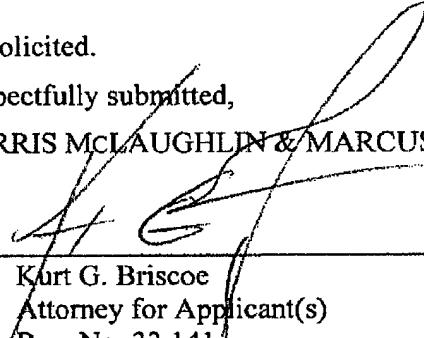
Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a bona fide response to all outstanding objections and rejections.

Applicants also believe that this application is in condition for immediate allowance. However, should any issue(s) of a minor nature remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at telephone number (212) 808-0700 so that the issue(s) might be promptly resolved.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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